



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Applicants : Constantine J. Tsikos et al.  
Application Serial No.: 10/730,481  
Filing Date : December 8, 2003  
Title: METHOD OF AND SYSTEM FOR ACQUIRING AND  
ANALYZING INFORMATION ABOUT THE PHYSICAL  
ATTRIBUTES OF OBJECTS USING PLANAR  
ILLUMINATION BEAMS, VELOCITY-DRIVEN AUTO-  
FOCUSING AND AUTO-ZOOM IMAGING OPTICS, AND  
HEIGHT AND VELOCITY CONTROLLED IMAGE  
DETECTION ARRAYS  
Examiner : n/a  
Group Art Unit : 2876  
Attorney Docket No. : 108-103USANA0

Honorable Commissioner  
of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced Patent Application, please amend the same as follows:

**AMENDMENT OF THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the Specification as follows:

On Page 58, after the last paragraph, insert the following paragraph:

--In Figs. 1G13 through 1G29, various methods and apparatus are disclosed for destroying the spatial coherence of the laser illumination sources employed in the PLIMs of the present invention. In Figs. 1G30 through 1G33, various methods and apparatus are disclosed for destroying the temporal coherence of the laser illumination sources employed in the PLIMs of the present invention. These two different classes of speckle-noise pattern reduction techniques will be described in detail below.--